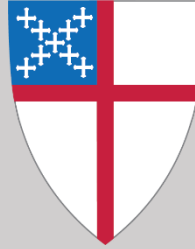


ST. PAUL'S
Episcopal
CHURCH



209 N. 7th Street ~ P.O. Box 233
Corner of 7th & Seneca ~ Leavenworth, Kansas
Office: (913)-682-1033
office@stpaulslvn.org ~ www.stpaulslvn.org

Generous Community • Enduring Worship • Gracious Welcome

SUNDAY WORSHIP AT ST. PAUL'S – 9:30 A.M.

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP ONLINE

For streaming: Go to our Facebook page – *St. Paul's Episcopal Church Leavenworth, KS*
Service streams at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings
Go to our website for a link to Facebook or a rebroadcast of previous services



THE HERALD

St. Paul's Monthly Newsletter

The Reverend Jerome Hinson

Priest-in-Charge

[PriestJere@gmail.com](mailto: PriestJere@gmail.com)

The Rev. Allen Ohlstein

Deacon

aohlstein@me.com

Dr. Mark Stotler

Organist/Choir Director

organistmarkstotler@gmail.com

Mary Kamm

Parish Administrator

office@stpaulslvn.org

Jeff Leser

Treasurer

treasurer@stpaulslvn.org

Jennifer Turner

Sunday School Contact

jenn@innovabeautybar.com

Diocesan Web Site:

www.episcopal-ks.org

Office Hours:

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday-
Thursday

2023 VESTRY

TERM EXPIRES

Finance and Admin

Michelle Garcia 2024, Warden

Brian Hodges 2025

Weldon Elrod 2026

Parish Life

Candy Dials 2024, Warden

Gwyneth Hawk 2026

Kathy Meyer 2025

Outreach

Carol Hunt 2024

Jane Belanus 2025

Beth Fitz Gibbon 2026, Clerk

December's Calendar:

- Saturday, December 2:**
- o FIST 8:30 a.m.
 - o Greening and Cleaning of the Church 9:30 a.m.
 - o Vintage Homes Tour Docent walk-through 1:00 p.m.
- Sunday, December 3:**
- o Worship Service 9:30 a.m.
 - o Advent Wreath making during coffee hour
- Monday, December 4:**
- o PCC 10:00 a.m
 - o P.E.O Poinsettia pick up
- Tuesday, December 5:**
- o Minster Meeting in Atchison 6:00p.m.
- Wednesday, December 6:**
- o First Wednesday potluck and program Canon Lisa Senuta
The Spirituality of Advent
- Thursday, December 7:**
- o P.E.O Bridge 1-3
 - o Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.
- Saturday, December 9:**
- o Community Meal 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
 - o Homes Tour Set up
- Sunday, December 10:**
- o Worship Service 9:30 a.m.(with a guest harpist)
 - o Homes Tour 1-6
- Monday, December 11:**
- o Grandparents@Prayer Meeting 5:30-6:30
- Wednesday, December 13:**
- o Happy Bookers 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday, December 14:**
- o Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.
- Saturday, December 16**
- o Men's prayer breakfast 8:00 a.m.
- Sunday, December 17:**
- o Worship Service 9:30 a.m.
- Tuesday, December 19:**
- o Vestry 6:30 p.m.
- Wednesday. December 20:**
- o Men's Group at eh Depot 9:00a.m.
- Thursday, December 21:**
- o P.E.O. Bridge 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
 - o Choir practice 7:00 p.m.
 - o Due date for Herald articles
- Saturday, December 23:**
- o Holiday Open House @ the Hinson's 1-5:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 24:

- o Worship Service 9:30 a.m.
- o Christmas Eve Worship Service 7:30 p.m.

Monday, December 25: (office closed) o Worship Service 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, December 28

- o Choir practice 7:00 p.m.
- o January Herald Newsletter Published

Sunday, December 31:

- o Worship Service 9:30 a.m.

From the Priest in Charge

Fr. Jere Hinson

Happy New Year! Advent is the beginning of the liturgical year. Advent is my favorite season. I love the themes of watching, beholding, and anticipation. Both for the arrival of the Christ-child at the Feast of the Incarnation on Christmas and in the Parousia—a fancy word for the second coming of Christ at the end of time. The rich symbolism of this time of year forms our spiritual consciousness. There is a penitential aspect. Penance is not just for those who miss the mark with particular sins. It is principally for those who desire to live out of transcendent beliefs to create space for God to work in their lives. Think of it as preparing for someone to visit. We clean, we make special meals, we remember.

We use blue linens in our worship service to help us with this preparation, following the Sarum Rite of Salisbury Cathedral. Sometimes there's a blue aspect to our moods at this time of year as well. To remind us of the mixture of joy and sorrow that sometimes comes upon us the third Sunday Advent features rose instead of blue. "Gaudete" is the Latin word for "rejoice". People who live out of the transcendent love of God in Christ Jesus discover the profound, deep, moving, sense of profound joy that sadness and melancholy cannot overcome.

We also use different service music, prayers and Eucharistic settings. All of this is based upon our belief that our way of prayer shapes our way of believing which in turns shapes us for service as Christ's ambassadors in the world. The Latin for this is "Lex orandi, lex credenda."

Beyond our enduring worship this Advent and Christmas, we have other opportunities for faith formation, fellowship and service. First Wednesday this month will feature Canon for Spiritual Life and Clergy Care, the Reverend Lisa Senuta. She will engage with us on the spirituality of the season. A special offering for the men of our parish will happen on 16 December

At 8 a.m. as I host our initial Men's Prayer Breakfast. Elsewhere in ***the Herald*** you can find information about the many activities happening in and around the church—cleaning and greening, community meals, adoption of foster children for Christmas, Vintage Home tours, and many other aspects of our vibrant common life and labor here at St. Paul's. I am so grateful for and proud of the many, many volunteers who are hearing the call of Jesus and responding as a generous community.

Ruth and I would like to invite you, in our own act of gracious welcome, to come to our home for a holiday open house on Saturday, 23 December, between 1 and 5 pm. We live at 906 N. DeSoto Road in Lansing. We are so grateful for you all. Please come visit for a while and share some holiday cheer. Following that, Christmas will be upon us! We will have Christmas Eve service at 7:30 pm on 24 December and Christmas Day at 9:30 am. I look forward to meeting all your friends and relations who may join us for the Feast! Looking forward to January we will have the opportunity for house blessings in Epiphany season, the annual Parish meeting and elections... but first: Advent!

November Vestry Update

Dear Friends

The Vestry opened with an evening compline from the book of common prayer. Initial business was a review of the minutes from the last meeting, the financial reports and update from Fr. Jere on his activities in the past month. I provided an update on the progress of the new shingle roof for the Parish Hall. All supplies are in and we are waiting for a few days of good weather for the installation. This is the last of the major renovations planned for the next few years. We will eventually need to repair the Church roof and the organ but these projects can wait a year or two.

We need three members of the congregation who have been members in good standing for at least one year as of January 2024 to serve on the vestry. Vestry terms are one year for youth and three years for adults. Please consider serving. You may contact any vestry member for information. The Vestry voted to approve the Financial Standard Operating Procedure (SOP). This document has been four months in the making. My appreciation goes out to Jeff Leser, Brian Hodges, and Canon Patrick for their help in drafting and proofing this document. The Parish Life committee and Community Outreach committee have both been very active this fall. I encourage you to read about their activities in the other reports in this newsletter. Our next meeting is 19 December at 6:30pm in the Parish Hall. All are welcome.

I thank you all for your gracious generosity to our Church community. Many blessings this holiday season,

Michelle Garcia, Sr. Warden.



First Wednesday, December 6 join us for fellowship, food, and faith formation this month as Canon Lisa Senuta talks with us about the spirituality of Advent. We gather from 5:30-6:00pm, enjoy a pot-luck meal from 6:00-6:30pm, and engage with our guest speaker from 6:30-7:00pm. Last month 41 parishioners and friends (bring a friend!!!) gathered to dedicate our Parish Hall Fireplace and hear Sr. Vickie Perkins talk with us about a life framed by God's love and charity.

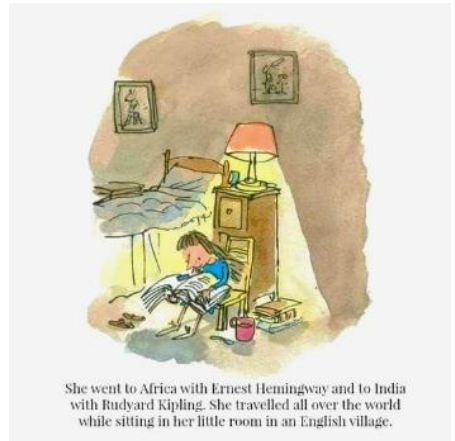


Chili Supper 2023

A huge thank you to Kathy Meyer for spearheading our annual chili supper and to the many, many volunteers who cooked, served and showed gracious welcome to over 200 people. It was truly an all hands on deck celebration of hospitality..



Happy Bookers would love to have the ladies join us on Dec 13th at 6:30 p.m. at our end of the year potluck. We will be enjoying appetizers, wine and great fellowship as we explore and decide on which books we should read in 2024. If you're an avid reader or just want to get out of the house for fellowship then the second Wednesday monthly is the group for you. Bring titles of books you think would be nice to share with the group or just come to see what we are all about. Hope to see you on Dec 13th!



Outreach Committee--Generous Community

St. Paul's People adopted 25 foster children for Christmas! The Outreach Committee met with CASA director Deborah Liles. The gifts will be delivered by the Outreach Committee to CASA on Monday 4 December.

We have invited Ms. Liles to the December 3rd Worship Service.

Hats/Gloves/Scarfs/Coat drive. Please place new/gently used, washed items in the baskets at the coat rack just inside the parish door. Donations will be given to homeless and women's shelter in Leavenworth.



December Outreach offering will be to St Vincent's Clinic. You

**may learn more about St. Vincent's here:
<https://www.caritasclinics.org/missionandvision>**

For more information about the Outreach Committee, please contact Carol Hunt, Jane Belanus or Beth FitzGibbon.

Advent Wreaths



Please join the Sunday School during Coffee Hour on December 3rd. We will be providing supplies for making an Advent Wreath-- wreaths, candle holders, decorations, and candles. Many thanks to Jennifer Turner for her outstanding leadership of our Sunday School and the team of volunteers that enable faith formation for our youngest members.

Acolyte Ministry Expands!

We are pleased to welcome Lilla Bouchette to St. Paul's acolyte ministry!

Acolyte ministry provides an opportunity for younger members of the Parish to take an active role in our worship and see up close what goes into preparations for the Eucharist.

Lilla joined Ise and Elle leading the Sunday procession and serving at the altar. We anticipate their taking on increased duties in assisting Deacon Allan and Fr. Jere.

Stay tuned!





From the Stewardship Chairs

As this year's campaign comes to a close, we want to thank each member of the parish for making this campaign a success. We sincerely appreciate those who spoke about their journey and what stewardship meant to them and their families. Father Jere, as always, with us each step the way offering support and guidance. We also owe a very special thank you to Candy Dails who was so gracious to help mentor us and keep us on track.

For those who thoughtfully prayed for the Church and this campaign, we thank you. We felt each one of them. For those who have already turned in your pledge cards, thank you so very much! If you have not yet turned one yet do not worry, no pledge will be turned away!! Rebecca and I are so thankful this parish is our home, and we are blessed to call each of you family. We hope each of you are filled with an "Abundance" of blessings during this Advent Season.

Doug and Rebecca Bell

Grandparents @ Prayer

Grandparents @ Prayer is off to a great start. We had ten people to gather and pray for our adult children and grandchildren at our first meeting on November 13. Please plan to join us every second Monday of each month at 5:30 pm in the parish hall. Our next meeting will be December 11. We will be starting a guided study using "Grandparenting with a Purpose" by Lillian Penner, available on Amazon. Please contact Amy Masters, (913) 240-3823 or Anthea Brosnan, (913) 680-4481 if you have any questions.



Prayer List:

Norman Arnold, Richard Fiske, Betty & Phil Clark, Mark Felton, Laura Tolliver, Barbara & Tom Kessler, Mary Wilkerson, Mary Gregerson, Carol Ohlstein, Barry & Deb Rimmey, James Henry, Marge Scheele, Phyliss Downing, Randy Kamm, Charles Gravidahl, Erika Johnson, Natalie Davy, Kari Fernengel, Rosemary Litewski, Mary Masterson Stitt, Teresa Murphy, Haroldine Nisbet, Wendy Fredland, Sam Sanford, Dick and Midge Bigler, Mary Madison, E.J. and Havick Eaton, Don Andersen, Angela Redmon, Bernice Biehn, Deacon Allen Ohlstein, MaryKaye Morgan, Carrie Hazen, Bradley Pearson, Tom Darmley, Beverly Rogness, Kelly Mack, Ralph Bodenner, and Bill and Boni Lages. **For all in the military at home and abroad.**

Missouri River Minster Meets To Assess Picnic!

Members of the Missouri River Minster met on the evening of 07 November at Trinity Episcopal Church, Atchison, for the monthly meeting. The main agenda item for the November meeting was a review of the annual Minster Picnic, held in October.



The Missouri River Minster, established in May 2021, unites neighboring parishes of the Diocese to provide a forum where parishes share ideas, develop common interests, and encourage broader fellowship among Episcopal communities. At its inception, the Missouri River Minster united this parish (Leavenworth) with Trinity Episcopal parish in Atchison. In late summer, St. Thomas

Church, Falls City, NE, joined the minster. Most recently, parishioners from Holton, Kansas have also been included.

The November meeting, held at Trinity Episcopal Church, was the first at which the St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Holton was represented and participated via Zoom.

After opening prayers, members of the Minster reviewed events of the annual Fall/Feast of St. Francis Minster Picnic' The joint Minster service and picnic took place a week after the actual Feast of St. Francis as the picnic shelter was not available on the



Sunday closest to the feast day. While the day's weather was cold, the plentiful sunshine helped folks disregard the temperature – at least a little.

The actual number of folks from Minster parishes was difficult to gauge with complete accuracy, but the consensus estimate was between 80 and 95 folks attended.

In keeping with good Episcopal tradition, hot and cold food in abundance and drinks aplenty made for a pleasant Sunday outing.

The next meeting is Tuesday, 5 December, at Trinity, Atchison. Please contact Fr. Jere, Gwyneth Hawk, Gary Hobin, or Carol Hunt for more details.



Calling All Men at St. Paul's

We have two opportunities this month! First, the Men's Fellowship meets Wednesday 20 December at 9:00am at the Depot. Bruce Simpson convenes this group who meet together for fellowship, mutual support and what we in the Navy call 'sea stories.' It's great fun! Second, we're starting a Men's Prayer Breakfast, Saturday, 16 December, 8:00am-9:00am at the Parish Hall. Fr. Jere will be initial first lead. We'll have a light breakfast and then scripture study and prayer loosely modeled on the Brotherhood of St. Andrew. One of the things we'll be discerning over the next few months is the possible formation of a chapter here at St. Paul's.

Pastoral Care Committee Highlights

--Fr. Jere and Sue Porter delivered a Sunshine Basket and Advent gifts to a parish family who are on our prayer list--many, many thanks to all who contributed.

--Deacon Allen took communion to three people over the past month. We now have three fully trained Eucharistic Home Visitors, Joy Kromer, Tom Dials, and Brian Hodges, who are available to assist the clergy with ensuring our people who cannot be in church are sustained by Holy Communion. Please contact Fr. Jere at the church office for anyone we should visit.

--Looking for an assistant funeral coordinator--Fr. Jere prefers whenever possible to follow Jesus' model of the disciples working in pairs. Please contact him or Nancy Mitchel Martin if you feel called to this vital ministry.

--Fr. Jere's home visits were curtailed this month by the search for a parish administrative assistant. Back at it this month!

--Advent Bags. Beth Pracht is coordinating a caring effort on behalf of some of our senior members.

--Next meeting is Monday, 4 December at 10:00am. Please see Jan Hubbard or Fr. Jere for more information or to be a part of the PCC!



Special Music Offerings

This past month we celebrated Christ the King Sunday, close to St. Andrews feast day, with a bagpipe postlude by our very own, at least I am claiming her as our own, piper, Tanya Berg.

For the Second Sunday of Advent Mark, our Music Director, has arranged for a harpist to enhance our worship. As a reminder the choir is recruiting--anyone high school age or above who is interested please contact Mark or another member of the choir.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

December 7 - Carol Sharp

December 10 – Mary Jane Gockley

December 11 - Yuriah Cummins

December 20 – Dallas Van Hoose

December 22 – Paul Berg

December 25 – Kaela Berg

December 27 – Rod Pracht

December 28 – Tom Dials

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

December 2 – Dana & Debbie Billings

December 12 - Michael & Qwenth Hawk

December 19 – Tom & Candy Dials

December 19 – Ken & Pam Jordan

December 20 – Steve & Kathy Meyer

December 29 – Mark Stotler & Carl Edwards



Christmas Poinsettias—forms are available in the church and the church office to order Poinsettias. You may also use the form below. Please place your order no later than Sunday, December 17th.





Christmas Poinsettias

Those wishing to order a poinsettia to decorate the church for Christmas may do so by writing a check to St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, indicating on the memo line that it is for poinsettias. Each poinsettia is \$15.00.

Please place your poinsettia order not later than Sunday, December 17th, returning this form to the church office or placing it in the collection plate so we can include your memorials and thanksgivings in the Christmas bulletin.

You may pick up your poinsettia after the service on either Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. The poinsettias remaining in the church will be taken to the parish hall where you can pick them up during office hours.

Given by

Given in memory of

Given in Thanksgiving for

VINTAGE HOMES TOUR 2023

St. Paul's will be featured in this month's Vintage Homes Tours. More information on the tour is available here:



https://www.leavenworthhistory.org/Tour_Of_Homes.htm Many thanks to the committee who are working so diligently to ensure the spirit of Gracious Welcome abounds. Candy Dials will host the docents for a walkthrough Saturday, December 2, at 1:00pm. The tour itself is Sunday December 10th, 1:00-6:00pm. The team has done a remarkable job researching and presenting our heritage. Come and see!

Miqra registration now open for youth!

Miqra (meek-rah) is a weekend retreat that focuses on the Bible and allows young people to discover what's in it, why we should care, and how to read it.

Here's what the youth are saying about Miqra:

*It is a lot of fun and there is so much to experience!

*I know it might sound weird to read the Bible, but that is only a fraction of what we do. We sing, dance, play games, and the food is amazing!

*We do a bunch of fun activities that help you create a deeper connection with your faith -- while still being hands-on and crafting creatively!

*It is an event full of community, games, music, and faith.

*Miqra is a place of safety and community.

*Miqra is a fan-favorite!

Some of my fondest memories are from youth events and I hope to share some with you!

The people there are amazing!

When: Saturday, January 13, 1 pm – Monday, January 15, 11 am, 2024

Students may choose to stay overnight or come just during the day.

Where: Grace Cathedral, Topeka

Who: Grades 6-12 (and adult volunteers!)

Fee: \$60

Register online:

<https://www.ultracamp.com/info/upcomingSessions.aspx?idCamp=986&campCode=1sC>



*FOR ONLINE GIVING, PLEASE USE THE QR CODE WHICH
WILL TAKE YOU TO OUR VANGO SITE.*



*Thank you for your generous sharing of your treasure in
the service of our Lord Jesus Christ!*

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

P.O. Box 233

209 N. 7th Street

Leavenworth, KS 66048



THE *Episcopal* CHURCH 



December 2023

**Livestream or playback services
at St Pauls Episcopal
Leavenworth Facebook**